



## Climate change and primary health care

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### Abstract:

**BACKGROUND:** Climate change and rising average global temperatures threaten to disrupt the physical, biological and ecological life support systems on which human health depends. **OBJECTIVE:** This article overviews the evidence for human induced climate change, the predicted health impacts, and the role of primary health care professionals in managing these impacts. **DISCUSSION:** Climate change has substantial potential health effects. These include heat stress related to heatwaves; injuries related to extreme weather events such as storms, fires and floods; infectious disease outbreaks due to changing patterns of mosquito borne and water borne diseases; poor nutrition from reduced food availability and affordability; the psychosocial impact of drought; and the displacement of communities. Primary health care has an important role in preparing for and responding to these climate change related threats to human health.

**Source:** Ask your librarian to help locate this item.

### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional, Policymaker

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Temperature

**Extreme Weather Event:** Drought, Flooding, Wildfires, Other Extreme Event

**Extreme Weather Event (other):** Storms

**Food/Water Quality:** Pathogen

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**Food/Water Security:** Food Access/Distribution, Nutritional Quality

**Temperature:** Extreme Heat

**Geographic Feature:** ☐

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

**Geographic Location:** ☐

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Australasia

**Health Impact:** ☐

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease, Injury, Malnutrition/Undernutrition, Mental Health/Stress

**Infectious Disease:** Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** General Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mental Health Effect/Stress:** Stress Disorder

**Medical Community Engagement:** ☐

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

**Mitigation/Adaptation:** ☐

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** ☐

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status

**Resource Type:** ☐

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

## Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified